

REMARKS

Claims 1-46 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 6-9, 14, 18-20, 22-25, 33-40 and 44-46 have been amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated February 14, 2005 in light of the following remarks.

Applicants thank the Examiner and his Supervisor, Chris Kelly, for the courtesy extended during the telephonic interview with Applicants' representative on May 12, 2005. During this interview, the cited reference and rejections were discussed.

Applicants additionally thank the Examiner and his Supervisor for the courtesy extended during the personal interview with Applicants' representative on May 25, 2005. During this interview, the cited reference, residual errors and residual error vectors were discussed.

The claims have been amended to clarify the present invention and now recite a "residual error codebook", "a set of residual error vectors", and "a residual error vector index" associated with each residual error vector. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the Specification and in particular on page 2, lines 16-17; page 3, lines 16-28; on page 8, line 30 to page 10, lines 2; on page 17, lines 4-16, page 17, line 30 to page 19, line 7.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102/103

Claims 1-20, 23-36, and 39-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,912,706 to Kikuchi et al. ('Kikuchi'). Claims 21-22 and 37-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikuchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,818,536 to Morris et al. ('Morris').

Independent claims 1, 7, 14, 23, 34 and 40 have been amended to recite a residual error codebook including a set of residual error vectors used in motion compensation and to recite a "residual error vector index", a "residual error vector".

Kikuchi only discusses a codebook for motion vectors, not a codebook for residual errors. Thus, Kikuchi does not teach a "residual error codebook", a "residual error vector index", or a

“residual error vector” as recited. Claim 1 for example recites “a residual error codebook comprising a set of residual error vectors and a residual error vector index associated with each residual error vector, each residual error vector in the set of residual error vectors comprising an array of predetermined motion compensation errors”.

The portion of Kikuchi cited in the Office Action (column 7 lines 14-35) doesn’t mention a residual error codebook, doesn’t mention a “residual error vector index”, and doesn’t teach a “residual error vector”. Instead, this section summarizes Kikuchi’s codebook for motion vectors and the need to prevent failures in the transmission of motion vectors from spreading. Kikuchi previously details transmission channel difficulties and their effects on motion vector fault propagation (see Background on column 4 lines 29-62) and directs his invention to overcome transmission failure in delivery of motion vectors.

For at least these reasons, Kikuchi does not teach all the limitations in independent claims 1, 7, 14, 23, 34 and 40 and the independent claims are allowable over the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Morris does not correct for deficiencies in Kikuchi, and similarly does not teach or suggest the independent claims and a residual error codebook including a set of residual error vectors and predetermined motion compensation errors in each residual error vector.

Dependent claims 2-6, 8-13, 15-22, 24-33, 35-39 and 41-43 each depend directly from independent claims 1, 7, 14, 23, 34 and 40, respectively, and are therefore respectfully submitted to be patentable over Kikuchi and/or Morris for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claims. Further, the dependent claims recite additional elements which when taken in the context of the claimed invention further patentably distinguish the art of record. For example, dependent claim 3 recites “wherein the decoder apparatus performs pel-recursive motion estimation to produce motion vectors for each pixel in a block”. Neither Kikuchi nor Morris teach or suggest pel-recursive motion estimation.

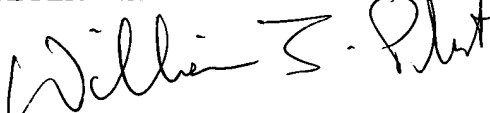
Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC §102(b) and §103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension or any further fee required in connection with the filing of this Response is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0388 (Order No. CISC193).

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William J. Plut", is written over the printed name.

William J. Plut

Limited Recognition under 37 C.F.R. §10.9(b)

P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
Telephone: (650) 961-8300